

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 30A, Section 20, notice is hereby given for the following meeting of the:

***Arlington School Committee
Curriculum Instruction Accountability and Assessment
Wednesday, June 8, 2022
3:00 PM***

Conducted by Remote Participation <https://www.mass.gov/doc/order-suspending-certain-provision-of-open-meeting-law/download> via Zoom link below:

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Open Meeting (J. Morgan)

Approval of Minutes (J. Morgan)

Job Description for Approval (R. Spiegel/A. Elmer)

22-23 District Goals (E. Homan)

Heterogeneous Groupings Feedback (J. Morgan)

Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Stated times and time amounts, listed in parenthesis, are the estimated amount of time for that particular agenda item. Actual times may be shorter or longer depending on the time needed to fully explore the topic.

Submitted by Jane Morgan

Massachusetts law requires all open session meetings of public bodies to be accessible to members of the public, including those with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the Administrative Assistant to the Arlington School Committee Liz Diggins at ediggins@arlington.k12.ma.us.



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Conducted by Remote Participation via Zoom

Summary:

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Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Open Meeting (J. Morgan)

Summary:



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Approval of Minutes (J. Morgan)

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	File Name	Description
▣ Minutes	CIAA_Minutes_6.3.19_Draft_-_Google_Docs.pdf	CIAA Minutes 6-3-19
▣ Minutes	CIAA_Minutes_5.12.20_Draft_-_Google_Docs.pdf	CIAA Minutes 5-12-20
▣ Minutes	CIAA_Minutes_5.20.22_Draft_-_Google_Docs.pdf	CIAA Minutes 5-20-22

Arlington School Committee
Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 3, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m.

Attendance

Subcommittee Members: Jane Morgan (Chair), Paul Schlichtman, Jeff Thielman

District Leadership: Kathleen Bodie (Superintendent), Roderick MacNeal, (Assistant Superintendent), Alison Elmer (SPED Director), Robert Spiegel (Human Resources Director)

School Committee members: Len Kardon

Others: Deborah Savage, Lisa Reynolds, Steven Reynolds, Arlington residents

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

Mr. Thielman arrived at 5:45p.m.

Public Participation:

- *Deborah Savage* has a report to share with the committee. She believes that special education is a district-wide issue and requires district-wide discussion on the proposed 2019-20 goals. There are no descriptions of special education programs online so some of the information is missing and the document she shared is a draft. There are huge holes in special education that the district is not planning to address.
- *Lisa Reynolds* is looking for a more restricted cell phone use policy at AHS. She wants devices off and in the backpack throughout the day and unused during the day. She is wondering if there was a decision made to use cell phones in schools and believes that removing them would be beneficial to students. She finds it problematic for students to need to have cell phones in school. Wondering about issues related to bullying or kids interacting via text during the school day.

Cell phone use policy review

- Paul Schlichtman reviewed the conversation about cell phone use that happened in a previous Policy Subcommittee. He believes that the rational way to approach cell phone use in the high school is for AHS to take up the policy as part of their School Council. He would like the School Council to present something to the School Committee for our approval. He believes that cell phone use could be a building based decision.
- Rod MacNeal shared that AHS is BYOD. The device isn't dictated so for some students their cell phone is the only device they have to access the internet. Some students

choose to use their cell phone as their learning device. He has concerns about what is enforceable in the high school.

- Lisa Reynolds reports that MM allows students to use their phones in the cafeteria.
- Len Kardon would like to get more information from the high school staff so that he can address it with their staff.
- Paul Schlichtman wants Matthew Janger to provide language on cell phone use.
- Lisa Reynolds wanted to talk about security risks for kids and how students are able to access so much information. What is the impact this has on kids?
- Steven Reynolds reports that his son plays games on his phone.
- The recommendation is that it goes to the AHS School Council to look at the student handbook. Kathy Bodie will communicate that need to principal, Matt Janger.

2019-2020 APS District Goals

- Kathy Bodie shared that there have been a lot of opinions about what the goals should look like over the years. She reports that school administration believes that the goals from 18-19 were multi-year goals.
- Jane Morgan shared that she is looking forward to seeing the curriculum overviews for K-5 at the end of the year. She would also like to see additional emphasis on the goals for hiring, retention and building capacity.
- Len Kardon proposed a new goal objective 3-3 that focuses on the District-Wide Inclusionary Practices review.
- Deborah Savage said that parental experience back up the findings in the LABB report. Specially-designed instruction isn't reflected in these goals. She wants one sub-goal that deals with how to measure progress and performance of special education students. She would also like to see something in the goals to deal with best practices.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Arlington School Committee
Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 12, 2020 @ 8AM

The meeting was called to order at 8AM

Attendees:

Jane Morgan, CIAA Subcommittee member

Jeff Thielman, CIAA Subcommittee member

Paul Schlichtman, CIAA Subcommittee member

Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent

Roderick MacNeal, Assistant Superintendent

Matt Coleman, Math Department Chair

Public Comment:

Neil Saunders: Gibbs parent. Asking for synchronous learning experiences for students.

Len Kardon: Asking for more parent feedback, synchronous learning trial, additional structure in the remote learning plan and accountability for students and teachers.

Agenda:

Remote Learning, Curriculum, Plan and Expectations

Jane Morgan: Why haven't expectations for teachers been more formalized? How do we know what teachers are doing during their 20 hours a week? Why haven't we engaged with the AEA to formalize expectations? We are hoping that teachers exceed our expectations which isn't a strategy.

Kathy Bodie: We have a collaborative relationship with the AEA so there isn't a need to negotiate formally.

Jeff Thielman: Boston Public Schools are conducting live teaching sessions two hours a day. Is there a possibility for piloting this at the high school moving forward? What are we doing to gather data from other districts? Are we tracking whether or not students are advancing?

Rod MacNeal: We could pilot something but it would require working something out with the union. The state isn't requiring or recommending synchronous learning. We will be using Powerschool to track student assignments.

Matt Coleman: Dreambox for all K-8. For 6-12 using Assignments. Math department has been collecting information since March 19th. Looking at data in the aggregate as opposed to student-by-student. Scheduling meetings is hard. Targeting essential standards in math. Focusing on skill-based learning.

Jane Morgan: Why would we not mandate live teaching? When can we expect that to be part of the experience for students?

Kathy Bodie: We will not mandate live teaching. This current model will not be sufficient for next year. We will take the lessons we are learning now to help think about the different kinds of models for next year. I think it is a good idea to try a few pilots of synchronous teaching.

Matt Coleman: Identify the exemplars. It takes awhile to implement change week by week. The pacing is really hard.

Paul Schlichtman: The issues with k-5 is very different from 6-12. Caseloads are very different.

Jane Morgan: Would like to see an outline of how teachers spend time as well as plans for a synchronous learning pilot before the end of the school year.

Jeff Theilman: Would like to see direct instruction piloted. Would like a review of what other districts are doing. Also would like to know how prescriptive they want direction to be from the state level.

Paul Schlichtman: Would like to set forth expectations for what teachers are doing and what good practice looks like at each level as well as a feedback path for parents through teachers and principals to share what they are seeing.

Arlington School Committee
Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 20, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m.

Attendance

Subcommittee Members:

Jane Morgan (Chair), Paul Schlichtman, Len Kardon

District Leadership:

Liz Homan (Superintendent), Roderick MacNeal (Assistant Superintendent), Rob Spiegel (HR Director)

School Committee members:

Bill Hayner, Kirsi Allison-Ampe

Community Members:

Courtney Marsh

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

DEI Specialist Job Description

- The subcommittee and membership engaged in a conversation about preferred protocol for handling job descriptions. It was decided that the Superintendent and HR Director will engage with the SC chair and the CIAA chair about job descriptions and they will either come through CIAA subcommittee or they will go through a different subcommittee. Then they will be seen at the full committee. The intent is that all job descriptions are seen in either subcommittee or executive session before being brought to the full committee for approval.
- Edits were made to the DEI Specialist Job Description to address recommendations around language especially for students with disabilities.
- The subcommittee voted 3-0 in favor of sending the job description to the full committee for approval. The HR Director will post the position internally in the interim as was the direction of the full committee at the last meeting with a provision that it still needs approval from the full committee.

District Goals for 2022-23

- The Superintendent presented the draft of the strategic initiatives that are part of the district goals for 22-23. The subcommittee provided feedback.
- The Superintendent presented drafts of the mission and vision statements that are part of the strategic planning process and will tie in with the district goals. The subcommittee provided feedback.

District Goals for 2021-22

- The subcommittee discussed the process for getting a progress report on the district goals for 21-22. It was the consensus of the members who were present that we need to do some kind of synthesis on the 21-22 goals with the Superintendent. Many of the goal objectives we have already heard about in various presentations over the last 9 months. The request from the members present was that Jane Morgan reach out to the School Committee chair so that the chair can work with the Superintendent to look at the 21-22 goal objectives and determine if there are areas/objectives where the committee may need further information or a presentation of some kind at a committee meeting and then place them in agendas as she sees fit and necessary. Some of the objectives will not require any updates. Most will not require extensive presentations and can be done as part of the Superintendent's report. The intent is that the committee sees what is needed on these goals prior to the Superintendent's evaluation period in November 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Job Description for Approval (R. Spiegel/A. Elmer)



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

22-23 District Goals (E. Homan)



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Heterogeneous Groupings Feedback (J. Morgan)



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Future Agenda Items



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Adjournment



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Submitted by Jane Morgan